

SCENE OF EARLY STAGES OF ALLIED MOVEMENT AGAINST BULGARIANS



FRENCH AMBULANCE TENTS ON USKUB-SALONIKA LINE NEAR STRUMNITZA STATION

Strumnitza Station, where the French troops first went into action against the Bulgarians, was the scene of an enemy attempt to cut the line connecting up with Uskub. This was frustrated by the French, who came up by train at the critical moment and immediately went into action, driving back the enemy. The ambulance tents seen in this view are ordinary canvas erections constructed on a wooden frame and pegged down to the ground. To the right is the single track line of the Salonika railroad.

PRINCIPALS DISAGREE OVER GARY; SAY SUPERVISED PLAY IS BETTER

School Board Gives Heads of School Chance to Express Opinions at Secret Meeting of Board; One Declares It Resulted in Breakdown of Discipline; Another Says Discipline Better; Agree Teachers Overworked.

PRINCIPALS of seven of the public schools in El Paso were questioned by members of the school board, at a special executive session Thursday evening at the Bailey school, as to whether or not the Gary system as applied in El Paso for the past three and one-half months had been satisfactory and the replies that the principals made varied.

Some were opposed to the idea as contrasted with the old school system of regular recitation hours and recess, while all were agreed that supervised play is better than play without the influence of adults. Three of the principals were outspoken for the Gary idea while others took the position that better work was done under the part time plan.

**Miss Gallagher First.**

Miss Maria J. Gallagher, principal of the Alamo school, was the first of the principals summoned into the council room. The method of giving each principal a separate direct examination was adopted. The questions were all asked by E. M. Whitaker, president of the board, and when he had concluded the other members asked such questions as they were interested in.

Miss Gallagher stated that she did not understand what the kind of the Gary system could be and that it had resulted in pandemonium and confusion at her school, causing a breakdown in the discipline of the children and dissatisfaction on the part of the teachers. She said that the Gary method might have worked better at the Alamo school, of which she is principal, had there been more room, but instead of having room, the children ran into the streets and down the alleys. Frequently, she said, the children did not return for their classes at all.

**Too Many Children.**

Miss Gallagher stated that she could not tell definitely whether the children had advanced in their work or been retarded since the Gary idea was instituted. She could not vouch for any better attendance and said that the teachers could not do as good work as under the former system, as they did not have the same opportunity to reach the mind of the child. Miss Gallagher expressed the thought that there were entirely too many children to be supervised at play and that because of the great numbers the very and which supervised play seeks, has been defeated. She said that the boys did not like to play with the girls, and vice versa, and that instead of the recess being turned into a relaxation, it was turned into a strenuous occupation, which interfered with the children's lessons.

**Mad and Dumb.**

Miss Gallagher spoke of the sad and out conditions at Alamo school as being deterrents in developing the Gary idea of play; said cold weather and rainy days tended to upset the system which is intended to get the children outdoors. Asked if she preferred the part time plan to the Gary system, she said yes, added that what the patrons of the school thought of the Gary plan, Miss Gallagher replied that they left it to her and usually

said what she thought right was all right with them.

**Mrs. Payne Favos Plan.**

Mrs. E. B. Payne, principal of the Alta Vista school, was next summoned and she said that the children at her school were doing better work under the Gary than under the old system and that their progress was exceedingly good in the special work. "I believe that supervised play is much better than the old recess plan," she said, "as it gives the children an opportunity to learn new and interesting games and to learn the principles of fair play. Children who are unwilling to play need not play, but most of them want to play. I think the Gary system is capable of being developed considerably along the lines started."

**Discipline Good.**

Asked if under any other plan, the teaching staff might be reduced more than it is now, Mrs. Payne said she did not think so. She met the question of whether or not the discipline had changed by stating that discipline is as good now as it was before the Gary system was introduced. "We have the self government plan," she added.

**Believe in Gary.**

Miss Catherine Gorbett, principal of Aoy school, said that the pupils were decidedly better off under the Gary system than under the old, especially in the special work. She said she believed in the educational value of supervised play, as it teaches the child to have control of himself and how to conduct himself towards others. Miss Gorbett did not approve of the part time plan and said that she did not believe she could take care of as many children as now enrolled at Aoy with a lesser staff under a different system. "We now have an average of 40 children to the teacher and I do not think we could face a reduction profitably," she said. The discipline under the Gary system, she said, was an improvement over the old system.

**Not Doing as Good Work.**

Miss Myra Prater, principal of Beall school, stated that her pupils were doing better work under the Gary system as under the old in their standard work, but that they were doing better work in their special subjects. She said she believed in supervised play grounds in their place as organized play has its educational advantages. She said there had been some complaint from parents about the new system, mostly because of the long hours that the children spent away from home. She also spoke of the inopportune distribution of play periods. She said that she secured better results under the part-time method. Asked how she might improve the class work with the Gary system, Miss Prater replied: "By making the first grades part-time."

**Let It Be Done Right.**

Miss Prater said she did not see how a reduction of teachers might be accomplished under any other system, as her teachers now teach twice the number of children they should attempt to teach and pointed out that, because of the long hours, the teachers really did not reach the children more than 15 minutes twice a day, the rest of the time being given over to play and music. She also spoke of the difficulties of carrying out the Gary idea without the proper equipment.

ment and how, on one rainy day, she had had 182 children during the play period confined in one room.

**Face a Reduction Profitably.**

"Dr. Wirt said it would take \$5,000 to properly install the Gary system in El Paso, and I think he is more or less right," she asserted. "We should either have five more rooms at Beall or have half day sessions. Last year we did just as good work as the present year with less strain upon the teachers. I have not discussed the matter with the teachers. I told them, when the Gary system was being instituted, that we were not to discuss the matter simply comply, as it was the wish of the board."

**Teaching Spiritual.**

"I believe," said Miss Prater, "that teaching is a spiritual work and that to ask a teacher to teach 90 children is an impossible task. This our average teacher has to face in the shifting of classes. To give out this influence or spiritual element is giving away so much strength and vitality, and if the teacher does not meet the test, it is not because she is unwilling but because the exaction is too great."

**Believe in Supervised Play.**

Miss Alice Fitzpatrick, principal of Lamar school, was next heard by the board. She stated that the children under her care were not doing the work that they had done under the old system and that the students were upset by the varied numbers of teachers that came to them to give instruction. She also stated that the Gary system did not provide enough time for the standard work. She said that the children were, however, doing better work in the special classes and that she believed in the educational value of supervised play.

**Eliminates Bullying.**

"Supervised play eliminates bullying and vandalism on the play ground," she said, "but I do not think it necessary for teachers to be on the ground tyrannizing over the children all the time. It is well to teach the children games, but it is well to let the children play them afterwards to their own liking."

**Parents Complain.**

Miss Fitzpatrick said that parents complained of the length of time that the children remained at school. In preference to the Gary system she said that the children would be better in half-day sessions. Questioned as to a reduction of teachers or other expense, Miss Fitzpatrick expressed the thought that the matter of economy had already reached a frayed stage and that the present system under her direction could not be smaller under any other system. Asked for a suggestion, she said that if the Gary system remained, it would be well to put the first grades on half time. As for the discipline, she said it was not so good as under the old system.

**Children Stay at Home.**

Mrs. M. L. Patterson, principal of San Jacinto school, complained of the time that it allowed the teacher to conduct the regular class work under the Gary system and said that she preferred the part-time method. Asked if she thought the Gary system capable of development in her school under the present conditions, Mrs. Patterson replied that the system was a

SAYS GERMANY IS UNCONQUERABLE



HERR VON BETHMANN-HOLLWEG.

In his speech to the Reichstag Dr. von Bethmann-Hollweg, the Imperial Chancellor, declared Germany is unconquerable and Allies must ask for peace. He stated that peace terms must end war for all time to be accepted and that if Germany's enemies make peace proposals compatible with Germany's dignity and safety, then Germany would be ready to accept them.

question of equipment and as there was not the equipment nor the play space, she did not think it promising. She said she did not know that any other system would call for a reduction of teachers below the number now engaged. She also complained of the fact that a tendency had arisen among the children to spend more time at home and the parents to encourage them in this because of the freedom of the Gary idea.

Miss Alice Swann, principal of the Niles school, was the last to be questioned, and she spoke encouragingly

AMARILLO CATTLEMAN IS FOUND DYING IN TEXHOMA

Amarillo, Texas, Dec. 17.—Half an hour after he had gone into Benson's real estate office over the First National bank in Texhoma, ostensibly to write a letter, R. S. Thompson, 36, and a well known cattleman, was found in a dying condition. Three shots were heard by the telephone operator soon after Thompson had entered the office and Thompson was found with three bullets in his body, two in the left side and one in the temple. Thompson had been in ill health for several months.

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